274. The Executive Director would report on progress in implementing the recommendations contained in the report by Inspector Bertrand on planning and programming for chidren at the country level, results of experience so far, and implications for future action. Also in 1981, the Board would have the first biennial budget for its review. For its 1982 session, a report would be prepared on services benefiting children in low-income urban areas.

B. Future work and procedures of the Executive Board

E/ICEF/1984/12

141. The Executive Board accepted a proposal by the Chairman of the Executive Board to establish a working group, with open-ended participation, to review the future work and procedures of the Executive Board (E/ICEF/1984/CRP.30, para. 21). The Working Group met on 25 April 1984 and was attended by representatives of 20 member delegations. As recommended in the Report of the Working Group (E/ICEF/1984/CRP.46), the Executive Board decided:

(a) That the secretariat need not examine the question of the composition and size of the officers' bureau of the Executive Board to make recommendations to the Board in 1985 in view of the political nature of the matter; if necessary, an appropriate initiative could be taken on this matter by delegations for action by the Board itself;

(b) That, bearing in mind existing UNICEF programming and budgeting cycles, the secretariat should be asked to examine the proposal concerning the possible rescheduling and/or reorganization of the work programme for the Executive Board with a view to making recommendations to the Board at its 1985 session, in particular taking into account the following:

(i) The examination by the secretariat should take a broad view of the question, describing the implications of the proposed recommendations and spelling out clearly their advantages, drawbacks, likely costs and impact on UNICEF operations;

(ii) The examination should look into the changes in documentation which may be necessary as a result of the proposed recommendations;

(iii) The examination shall point out the implications of proposed recommendations on UNICEF relationships with other United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies, especially the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

(c) That the secretariat should include, in the above-mentioned examination, a review of the procedures and reporting arrangements for the Programme Committee and Committee on Administration and Finance with a view to improving the work of the Executive Board through possible changes in its rules of procedure, again specifying both the positive and negative aspects of such changes and taking into account the results of the change made in the reporting procedures at the 1984 session of the Board;

(d) That the Working Group, with open-ended participation from member delegations, would meet in New York from time to time while the secretariat was preparing the report on the examination, particularly at the outline and first draft stages.

E/ICEF/1985/12

168. The Executive Board adopted the following recommendations of the Working Group contained in document E/ICEF/1985/L.7:

Recommendation 1

The Executive Board,

Bearing in mind

(a) The need for country programmes of UNICEF assistance to be prepared and implemented within the framework of national development planning priorities and cycles and the priorities and cycles of other United Nations development assistance;

(b) The need to maintain the Executive Board's role in approving programmes of assistance;

(c) The need to maintain flexibility in implementing UNICEF programmes of assistance in order to reflect changing national conditions pertaining to the situation of children and to reflect changes in UNICEF policy as determined by the Executive Board;

Anxious to:

(a) Improve the efficiency of the work of the Executive Board by reducing the number of programme recommendations submitted to each annual regular session of the Executive Board, thereby permitting more intensive review of UNICEF programme activities;

(b) Reduce the proportion of staff time required for programme preparation while increasing the proportion of staff time available for programme implementation and monitoring;

(c) Make more efficient use of headquarters, regional and field offices' capacities for programme preparation;

Recommends the preparation and submission to the Board of UNICEF-assisted country programmes with longer programming cycles, bearing in mind the need to maintain and strengthen mid-term reviews and corrections of UNICEF country programmes.

Recommendation 2

The Executive Board,

Bearing in mind the decisions of the General Assembly concerning the control and limitation of documentation,

Instructs the secretariat to:

(a) Ensure that the maximum number of individual documents conform to the page-limits determined by the General Assembly and detailed in administrative instruction ST/AI/189/Add.20/Rev.1 of 24 February 1982;

(b) Continue its efforts to improve the quality and content of documentation and maximize its clarity by using standardized formats for similar categories of documents, by avoiding duplication and repetition in the content of documents and by avoiding the inclusion of material for "public relations" purposes in official documentation;

(c) Endeavour to limit the number of document pages prepared for each regular session of the Board to a total of 800 pages, excluding summary records;

(d) Endeavour to limit the number of conference room papers distributed during Board sessions.

Recommendation 3

The Executive Board

Approves that effective and continuing liaison between the Board and the UNICEF secretariat, particularly in relation to documentation and preparations for Board sessions should be maintained through the officers of the Board and, as and when necessary, through flexible arrangements for informal open-ended meetings.

Recommendation 4

The Executive Board

Approves the continuation of the reporting arrangements established at the 1984 regular session for its Programme Committee and Committee on Administration and Finance, i.e. that the two committee chairmen should report to the plenary session on the actions recommended by their respective committees in the form of a brief oral statement and that more detailed written reports of the committees' deliberations should be circulated to members for comments and cleared by the appropriate Chairman, following the established practice for the report of the Board.

...

170. In addition, the Executive Board adopted the following recommendations, which resulted from the final meeting of the Working Group on 23 April 1985 and which was presented to the Board by the Chairman of the Working Group in his statement (E/ICEF/1985/CRP.49):

1. The mandate of the Working Group should be continued, recognizing that the valuable work already achieved in the last year is only the first step in improving continuing and effective liaison between the Executive Board and the UNICEF secretariat and their working procedures;

2. The initial success of the Working Group's activities reaffirms - and results from - the essential trust which characterizes the relationship between the Executive Board and the secretariat;

3. Priority tasks for the Working Group should include:

(a) Clarification of the role of the Executive Board and its Committees, as a prerequisite for improving Board procedures and related management information and documentation requirements;

(b) Further improvements in documentation, particularly in the documentation for the Programme Committee;

(c) Examining means of clarifying the presentation of programme and administrative budgets;

(d) Examining the possibility of achieving a "biennial concentration" of the Executive Board's work, in phase with the biennial budget cycle.

171. The following activities were added to the mandate of the Working Group after the Board adopted a separate recommendation on documentation:

(e) Developing guidelines for the preparation of regional reports on programme development and country programme profiles, taking into account the information needs of the Executive Board and its Committees;

(f) Organizing its business so as to enable a review of the Working Group's activities during regular Board sessions.

172. On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance (E/ICEF/1985/AB/L.7, para. 22), the Working Group was also requested to examine the format of UNICEF biennial budget estimates to make further improvements and to examine the possibility of rescheduling the sessions of the Executive Board.

C. Possible enlargement of the Executive Board

May 1980, E/ICEF/673

270. During the course of the general debate a number of delegations suggested that the time might have come to consider a modest enlargement of the Executive Board, taking account of the fact that the last enlargement - to 30 members - had occurred in 1956 and meanwhile the membership of the United Nations had grown very considerably. The Executive Director stated that he would welcome this increase; however, he noted that the challenge was how to balance a limited increase in Board size with the need to maintain the enviable reputation it had established for effectiveness.

271. During the course of the session the Chairman, with the help of the Vice-Chairmen, held informal consultations with delegations on this matter. Following these consultations the Chairman in his closing statement to the Board expressed his belief that, if the Board reached a firm consensus, the General Assembly could be persuaded to accept its recommendations. However, in order to reach such a consensus and have it followed through, delegations must act with the full authority of their respective Governments. Since the matter had been formally raised only at the current session, he had not pressed for a decision. Instead, he intended to suggest to the new Board Chairman that the latter should have informal consultations with delegations with a view to making a proposal to the Board at its 1981 session. Any enlargement of the Board should be modest and balanced in accordance with the criteria established by the General assembly in its resolution 1038 (XI) providing for "due regard to geographical distribution and to the representation of the major contributing and recipient countries". It was also essential to maintain the unique characteristics of UNICEF, including its non-political mandate and its dependence on voluntary contributions not only from Governments, but also from the general public, largely through National Committees for UNICEF. A major consideration should be to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of the Board by, inter alia, continuing to limit its session to two weeks.

May 1981, E/ICEF/685

241. The Chairman of the Board reported that during the past year, in accordance with the Board's decision at its session in 1980, he had been carrying out informal consultations with all the members of the Board with a view to reaching a consensus on a recommendation to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly with regard to enlargement of the Board's membership - the number, criteria and composition.

...

243. An informal note containing a proposed regional distribution for a Board composed of 36 members had been circulated. The Chairman had found a significant measure of agreement to the formula proposed or something close to it. However, some delegations had instructions which were so divergent that it did not seem possible to reach a consensus recommendation at the 1981 session.

244. The Chairman therefore reached the conclusion that the Board should invite its new Chairman to continue informal consultations among the Board members with a view to reaching a consensus recommendation at its 1982 session. He did so in the hope that during the intervening period delegations would be able to obtain new instructions from their Governments so that a consensus could be reached on this important matter; in the meantime, any initiative to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly would be deferred.

...

246. The Board then adopted the following conclusions:

> "The Executive Board expressed its regret that it has thus far not been possible to reach a consensus on the subject of its possible enlargement but believes that this may be possible through further consultations. It therefore requested the new Chairman of the Board to continue informal consultations with all Board members with a view to making a recommendation on this matter at the special session of the Board in 1981 or at its next regular session in 1982."

May 1982, E/ICEF/695

117. The Chairman reported on the results of the special session of 16 April 1982, at which the Executive Board adopted by consensus a recommendation to expand Board membership from 30 to 41 seats. The formula

for the enlargement increased the representation of the African and Asian states from six seats each to nine each; of Latin American States from four seats to six; and of the Western European and other States from 10 seats to 12. The forty-first seat will rotate among those regional groups and the Eastern European States, which have a representation of four seats. The rotation of the forty-first seat was decided upon by the drawing of lots among the developing regions for the first three terms, and between the Western European and other States and the Eastern European States for the fourth and fifth terms. As a result of the drawing, the order, is the following: African States; Latin American States; Asian States; Western European and other States; Eastern European States.

118. The recommendation for enlargement was approved by the General Assembly on 28 April 1982 (resolution 36/244). The Executive Director noted that the decision to enlarge the Board had been approved by the Economic and Social Council (decision 1982/111 of 22 April) and by the Assembly, and elections had taken place on 6 May - all within a period of two weeks. Special appreciation was expressed for the Chairman's efforts in facilitating the Board enlargement. The Chairman thanked all the parties concerned for the constructive manner in which the issue had been resolved and said he took special pleasure in welcoming recently elected Board members. The successful settlement of this matter illustrated the institutional vitality of UNICEF and had reinforced the Board's strong tradition of agreement by consensus.

D. Conduct of business

May 1981, E/ICEF/685

247. The Board agreed on two modifications in the conduct of business at its regular sessions. These were:

(a) That the Programme Committee, which was a committee of the whole, should meet and act on programme recommendations as soon as possible after the general debate, and that the Committee on Administration and Finance should meet subsequently to consider the budgetary implications thereof (particularly with reference to staffing); and

(b) That the Committee on Administration and Finance should be enlarged to become a committee of the whole.

May 1983, E/ICEF/701

139. In accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 35/219 on the use of Arabic in the subsidiary organs of the General Assembly, in the Security Council and in the Economic and Social Council, the Executive Board amended rule 26 of section VII of the rules of procedure (E/ICEF/177/Rev.4) by adding a reference to Arabic. The text now reads as follows: "Arabic,

Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the official languages and English, French and Spanish the working languages of the Board".

E. Documentation

May 1980, E/ICEF/673

275. There was general agreement that the volume of documentation should be reduced and that it should be prepared and distributed in translation in a more timely fashion. This consideration was an important factor in the Board's agreement to limit the number of special reports for the 1981 session to three rather than the five at the 1980 session. Also to this end, a number of delegations suggested that the country programme profiles, while proving to be very worthwhile, perhaps need to be issued in full only at intervals of two to three years and/or in conjunction with a new recommendation.

May 1981, E/ICEF/685

248. The Board agreed to the Chairman's suggestion that its consideration of special reports at its 1982 regular session be limited to the following three:

(a) Study on problems and organization of work at the local level, including subnational areas. The study would be concerned with the practical problems encountered and the experience gained in efforts to reach the underserved families and children, and would include a number of case-studies in individual countries;

(b) Study on urban basic services programme experience over the past four years and implications for the future;

(c) Alternative programme approaches in countries with different socio-economic situations.

May 1982, E/ICEF/695

119. The Board approved the following four subjects, as suggested by the Chairman, for reports to be considered at the 1983 Board session: supplementary funding; external relations policy; joint support to Governments for PHC implementation (a report of the WHO/UNICEF JCHP); and alternative programme approaches at the country level.

120. In addition, the Executive Director's report to the Board at its 1983 session will include progress reports covering the joint WHO/UNICEF nutrition programme and the UNESCO/UNICEF Task Force on the universalization of primary education; training activities and information on support for income-generating programmes for women. ...

May 1983, E/ICEF/701

136. The Executive Board accepted the invitation of the Government of Italy to hold its 1984 session at Rome and expressed its thanks to the Government for the invitation.

137. The Executive Board requested that two policy reviews be prepared for that session: one on the subject of early childhood development, the other on monitoring and evaluation. In addition, the Executive Director will report to the Board on a revised budget format and present a management study concerning UNICEF representation in Africa.

E/ICEF/1984/12

134. The Executive Board decided that a policy review paper on the subject of UNICEF support for the activities of women should be prepared for consideration at the 1985 regular session. ...

135. The Executive Board also agreed that a policy review paper on the subject of children in especially difficult circumstances - including children in situations of war and conflict, street children and working children, and children affected by natural calamities - should be prepared for the 1986 regular session.

136. It was agreed that in addition to the 1986-1987 biennial budget estimates, at the 1985 regular session the Board will also have before it a quantitative study of the overhead costs for supplementary funds. A study of the operations and efficiency of the UNICEF Packing and Assembly Centre (UNIPAC) was scheduled for the 1986 regular session.

...

139. In line with recent General Assembly resolutions on the control and limitation of documentation, the documentation before the 1984 session was reviewed and discussed informally at a meeting of delegations on 30 April 1984, on the basis of an information note on documentation (E/ICEF/1984/CRP.29). On the recommendation of that meeting, contained in "Review of documentation for the 1984 regular session" (E/ICEF/1984/CRP.47), the Executive Board decided that all member delegations should be invited to submit written comments on the 1984 documentation to the Secretary of the Executive Board by 15 June 1984. Those comments, focusing on improvements that could be made in time for the 1985 regular session, would be summarized by the Secretary and circulated to delegations for discussion by Board members in New York in September 1984.

140. The Executive Board further decided that the matters of longer-term improvements in documentation, in-session documentation and reporting arrangements, and the status of the informal Board/secretariat documentation

group fell within the broader tasks discussed by the working group on the future work and procedures of the Executive Board.

E/ICEF/1985/12

181. On the basis of an information note by the Chairman (E/ICEF/1985/CRP.47), which summarized several topics suggested during the general debate for consideration at future sessions, the Executive Board requested the secretariat to prepare a study on the impact and prospects for the expanded programme of immunization for the 1986 regular session.

...

173. Many delegations commented on the need for further improvements in documentation, particularly for the Programme Committee, so that the Board would be provided with the information essential to its decision-making function. ...

174. The major criticisms were that much of the country programme documentation was too general, did not provide information on the impact and performance of recent programme activities and did not give sufficiently specific information about the activities to be undertaken in new country programmes of assistance.

...

177. In his statement presenting the recommendations of the Programme Committee to the Executive Board (E/ICEF/1985/P/L.34, para. 3), the Chairman of the Programme Committee reported that "a broad concern was expressed about the adequacy, and especially the specificity, of information provided to the Programme Committee and the Executive Board for decision-making. It was decided that the secretariat would provide more analytical and relevant information, but on a selective basis given the large volume of information involved. The secretariat would also consult with delegations through the Working Group on the Future Work and Procedures of the Executive Board to clarify and define the type of data which would be most appropriate and useful for the Board's consideration of programme matters."

178. In her statement presenting the recommendations of the Committee on Administration and Finance (E/ICEF/1985/AB/L.7, para. 22), the Chairman of the Committee on Administration and Finance said the Committee "recommended that the Working Group on the Future Work and Procedures of the Executive Board would also look into the budgetary documentation to make further improvements. This Group should also look into the possibility of rescheduling the sessions of the Executive Board and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The UNICEF secretariat should study the concept of a net budget and should report to the Executive Board at the 1986 regular session".

179. After reviewing documentation under item 6(c) of its agenda (E/ICEF/1985/1), in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/32 E concerning the control and limitation of documentation, the Executive Board adopted the following recommendation as contained in E/ICEF/1985/CRP.38/Rev.1:

The Executive Board,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 38/32 E concerning the control and limitation of documentation, and having reviewed the information note on documentation (E/ICEF/1985/CRP.28) concerning the preparation of documentation for this session,

1. Requests the secretariat to continue the efforts already made to improve the quality, reduce the quantity and speed the delivery of Executive Board documentation;

2. Notes with regret that serious defects continue to exist in the translation and simultaneous distribution of documents in all official languages;

3. Requests the Executive Director to examine, as a matter of priority, with the United Nations Department of Conference Services, ways of reducing the time taken to translate, reproduce and distribute official Executive Board documentation.

180. In adopting the recommendation, the Board also noted the need for simultaneous interpretation services to be provided for ancillary meetings of the Board and decided to add points (e) and (f) to the mandate of the Working Group on the Future Work and Procedures of the Executive Board.

IV. OTHER DECISIONS

A. UNICEF action in the follow-up of the International Year of the Child (IYC)

May 1980, E/ICEF/673

5. The Board decided that UNICEF's follow-up, of the International Year of the Child (IYC) should be merged with the Funds ongoing work. UNICEF would enlarge its cooperation in developing countries in services related to child development as a complement to services directed at children's well-being, and would also, more explicitly, promote concern for all children. ...

...

47. The Board considered UNICEF action in the follow-up of IYC on the basis of a report and recommendations by the Executive Director (E/ICEF/L.1407). As desired by the Board, the report examined how UNICEF, taking into account the IYC experience, might promote more explicitly concern for all children, while

retaining its overriding priority for those in developing countries. It was based on a survey of the intentions of countries to follow up on IYC and the views of Governments, IYC National Commissions, National Committees for UNICEF, non-governmental organizations and persons carrying important responsibilities for children's services in all regions of the world.

...

49. The action by the General Assembly in October 1979 12/ ... confirmed a role towards which UNICEF had been moving more and more in recent years in such matters as advocacy; encouraging a greater deployment of resources to benefit children; stimulating new initiatives and innovative approaches to improving the well-being of children; and facilitating the exchange of information and experience among countries in matters affecting children.

...

63. There was general agreement in the Board with the recommendations of the Executive Director and with his intention to have the follow-up activities become an integral part of the everyday work of UNICEF, carried out within the existing organizational structure of UNICEF.

...

70. The initiative taken by the Executive Director for establishing machinery for consultation among agencies in the United Nations system on IYC follow-up was welcomed by delegates. Such consultation, it was felt, would serve to maintain the basis for coordination and stimulation of activities which existed during IYC.

71. Virtually all delegations expressed great appreciation for the vital role played by NGOs in the success of IYC. It was recognized that to sustain this high level of NGO initiative, which was essential for effective IYC follow-up, would require not only the continuation of accepted lines of cooperation between UNICEF and NGOs, but also new approaches that would take into account the new NGOs that had been drawn to UNICEF because of IYC.

12/ General Assembly resolution 34/4.

Board conclusions

73. The Board adopted the following conclusions for UNICEF action in the follow-up of IYC:

(a) The Board agreed on certain approaches and activities for the follow-up of IYC, which signify UNICEF's broader concern with the world's children, based on the premise that these activities will be integrated into UNICEF's total programme and will not detract from UNICEF's overriding commitment to meeting the needs of children in the developing world, especially through basic services, and will not divert resources to industrialized countries;

(b) These approaches and activities for UNICEF are:

(i) To promote the exchange of information among countries,particularly including successor organizations to IYC National Commissions, national agencies concerned with the formulation ofnational children's policies, non-governmental organizations and National Committees for UNICEF;

(ii) To continue to develop and publish background information and analysis on selected issues and problems concerning children;

(iii) To develop a service to provide readily available information and principally to make referrals to other sources for technical and operational information regarding the situation of children;

(iv) To cooperate with countries, as feasible, in the development of policies benefiting children, particularly in regard to problems common to many countries; and

(v) To enlarge its cooperation in developing countries in services related to child development, complementing those directed mainly to physical well-being;

(c) Delegations emphasized their understanding that the assumption by UNICEF of the role accorded to it by the General Assembly as lead agency in the follow-up of the development aspects of IYC required continuing consultation and cooperation with agencies in the United Nations system, other international agencies, and with NGOs, with a view to avoiding duplication and sustaining cooperative efforts;

(d) The view was expressed that care should be taken in convening international meetings, that such meetings should be action-oriented, and that studies, publications, and meetings should be thematic, directed to specific major objectives in line with UNICEF's priorities and its limited financial resources. At the same time, UNICEF was encouraged to be imaginative in its follow-up activities, and to see that the impetus generated during IYC, which was considered to be most successful, should be sustained.

Staffing and budget for follow-up activities

74. The Board had before it recommendations from the Executive Director (E/ICEF/CRP/80-3) on staffing and budget provisions for the follow-up activities he had proposed to the Board. They provided for an addition of $959,000 gross ($882,000 net) to the 1981 budget. ... The matter was referred to the Committee on Administration and Finance. The Committee approved the Executive Director's recommendations, which were subsequently approved by the Board.

B. Disarmament

May 1981, E/ICEF/685

Recollection of message sent to the General Assembly at its tenth special session, devoted to disarmament

230. Prior to the Board session the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had proposed that a supplementary item be placed on the Board's agenda, entitled "UNICEF's involvement in activities aimed at the strengthening of international peace and security, relaxation of tension, cessation of the arms race and achievement of disarmament with a view to securing a peaceful and happy future for all children". The proposal (E/ICEF/682) called attention to the arms race which placed a heavy burden on economies, diverting human and material resources that could otherwise be used to improve the situation of millions, especially children and women. ...

231. At the opening of the session, after consultation with the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Chairman of the Board suggested that the proposal be considered as part of the documentation for the general debate. This was agreed to by the Board and reflected in the revised agenda (E/ICEF/679/Rev.2).

...

236. In the course of the Board consideration of this question, the Canadian delegation proposed (E/ICEF/CRP/81-21/Add.2) that the Board terminate its discussion on this item without the adoption of conclusions on the Hungarian proposal or the Soviet revision of it. The delegation of Senegal put forward an alternative proposal (E/ICEF/CRP/81-21/Add.3), which read as follows:

> "Considering that children are always the innocent victims of the conflicts that arise in different parts of the world, the Executive Board recalled the message that it had sent to the General Assembly on the occasion of the tenth special session of the Assembly, devoted to disarmament."

237. A motion to close the debate put forward by the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, was adopted by 14 votes to 6, with 6 abstentions. The Canadian proposal was passed by a vote of 13 to 7, with 7 abstentions. A roll-call vote was then taken on the Senegalese proposal, which was adopted by 11 votes to 8, with 11 abstentions. 37/

238. In the statements that followed on the roll-call vote some delegations indicated that they would have gone along with a consensus had there been one. It was made clear by other delegations that their negative or abstaining votes had sprung from differing views not on peace and disarmament, but on the appropriateness of the adoption of such a resolution by the Board.

May 1982, E/ICEF/695

16. The Executive Board adopted, by consensus, a message to be sent from the Executive board to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament. The text of the message is contained in annex I below.

Annex I

MESSAGE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS SECOND SPECIAL SESSION DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

The Executive Board of UNICEF, mindful of the opening, in June 1982, of the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, recalls the message which the Executive Board sent to the Assembly at its first special session devoted to disarmament, in 1978, and wishes the General Assembly success in its difficult task of devising concrete ways to reduce armaments in the world and to promote peaceful relations between nations. The Board feels that, at different levels, both the special session of the Assembly and the UNICEF Executive Board are working in the best interests of future generations.

The Board notes that the waste of technical, financial, human and natural resources for armaments to the detriment of solving urgent social and economic problems, particularly of the developing countries, appears intolerable against the background of hardships and suffering of children in most developing countries.

In this regard, we believe it is worth reiterating the basic facts and timeless principles of our 1978 message:

37/ Votes in favour: Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Hungary, India, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Senegal, Switzerland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia. Votes against: Australia, Canada, Germany, Federal Republic of Netherlands, Somalia, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. Abstentions: Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, China, France, Ghana, Norway, Philippines, Sweden and Venezuela.

The unmet needs of the world's children are immense. In the developing countries with which UNICEF cooperates, on the average:

(i) The infant mortality rate is eight times that of the industrialized countries;

(ii) Malnutrition affects one quarter of all children;

(iii) Less than one half of the children of primary school age attend school;

(iv) Less than 20 per cent of rural children have access to adequate health facilities.

Bearing in mind that the massive accumulation of armaments reflects and aggravates international tensions, sharpens conflicts in various regions of the world, hinders the process of détente, exacerbates the differences between opposing military alliances, jeopardizes the security of all States, heightens the sense of insecurity among all States, including the non-nuclear weapons States, and increases the threat of war, including nuclear war,

Accordingly,

1. Taking note of the Final Document adopted by the General Assembly at the first special session devoted to disarmament, the UNICEF Executive Board urges countries participating in the second special session devoted to disarmament to take practical steps towards effective arms limitation and disarmament in accordance with priorities and responsibilities established in the Final Document and with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

2. The UNICEF Executive Board also expresses the hope that, during the deliberations at the special session, the participants will have ever in mind the objective of all Governments to provide safer, more constructive lives for the reduction of the dangerous and crushing burden of armaments; another is the provision of adequate services to meet the essential needs of the younger generations.

3. The Board therefore appeals to the General Assembly to take, at the special session, whatever steps it appropriately can in order to ensure that there may be a reduction of expenditures on armaments so that a portion of the savings can be channelled through national or multinational programmes towards meeting the minimum requirements of children everywhere - adequate nutrition, safe water, primary health care and suitable education. These are entitlements under the Declaration of the Rights of the Child a/ and are based equally on the principles of humanitarianism and the pragmatic necessities for sustained development.

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a/ General Assembly resolution 1386 (XIV) of 20 November 1959.

C. Appreciation and tribute

May 1981, E/ICEF/685

239. ... In the Board discussion many delegations expressed warm appreciation to Prince Talal for his historic initiative in helping to create the Gulf Arab States Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations, which they felt would strengthen the work of UNICEF.

240. In this connection, the Board adopted the following resolution:

"The Executive Board

"Takes note with great satisfaction of the statement of His Royal Highness Prince Talal, transmitted by the delegation of Saudi Arabia (E/ICEF/CRP/81-17);

"Reiterates its appreciation for the efforts he is undertaking to associate the Gulf Arab States more intensively in the efforts of the international community to improve conditions of children;

"Expresses the hope that His Royal Highness will be able to attend the next regular session of the UNICEF Executive Board."

May 1983, E/ICEF/701

Water supply and sanitation

50. ... Special appreciation was expressed for the UNICEF staff in Lebanon who, through "Operation Water Jug", were the sole providers of water in West Beirut during the 1982 emergency.

Emergencies

51. The Executive Board paid tribute to UNICEF emergency relief operations, making special mention of the effectiveness and promptness of assistance in Lebanon. ...

...

140. The Executive Board paid a special tribute to Danny Kaye, who in 1983 completed his thirtieth year as Goodwill Ambassador Extraordinaire for UNICEF. Citing his untiring efforts which had set an example of commitment and service emulated by other celebrities as well as by millions of citizens throughout the world, the Executive Board presented Mr. Kaye with an award on behalf of UNICEF and adopted the following resolution:

The Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund,

Noting that 1983 marks Mr. Danny Kaye's thirtieth year of devoted service to children as Goodwill Ambassador Extraordinaire for UNICEF,

Conscious of the unparalleled benefits which UNICEF and the world's children have derived from Mr. Kaye's untiring efforts as an advocate for children,

Appreciative of the example of commitment and service which Mr. Kaye has set, which has been emulated by other celebrities as well as millions of other citizens throughout the world,

1. Expresses its deeply felt gratitude to Mr. Kaye and its fervent hopes that he shall continue his active service to children through UNICEF, especially in these dark times in which the urgent needs of children are so easily forgotten and neglected;

2. Appoints Mr. Danny Kaye as Honorary Delegate to the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, in token of its gratitude and respect for his contributions and leadership as the Number 1 Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF.

141. The Executive Board also presented a plaque to Raymond Naimy, a UNICEF staff member in the Beirut Office, in recognition of his dedication and courage during the 1982 emergency in Lebanon. ... The Board expressed its appreciation to UNICEF staff members in Lebanon and throughout the world for their work on behalf of children and women which was carried out under circumstances of personal sacrifice and difficulty.

142. The Executive Board observed a minute of silence to honour the memory of Adelaide Sinclair, a former Chairman of the Board and Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF.

E/ICEF/1985/12

193. Following the Executive Director's statement of appreciation to His Royal Highness Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud in recognition of his services to the world's children and to UNICEF (E/ICEF/1985/CRP.50), the Executive Board adopted the following resolution proposed by the representative of Bangladesh (E/ICEF/1985/CRP.42):

The Executive Board,

Appreciating the exemplary support and commitment of His Royal Highness Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia to the cause of the children throughout the world,

Noting the announcement of the completion of the services that, as Special Envoy for the United Nations Children's Fund, he has rendered so vigorously since 1980,

1. Expresses its deep gratitude to Prince Talal for his remarkable efforts and generous assistance as one of the world's most dedicated champions of children;

2. Recognizes with appreciation the very important role played by Prince Talal as an eloquent spokesman and strong advocate for the cause of children everywhere and his strong support to the work of the United Nations Children's Fund;

3. Also expresses its appreciation to Prince Talal for his continuing active support to the cause of the world's children and to the United Nations Children's Fund as the President of the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations as well as in his individual capacity;

4. Appoints Prince Talal as an honorary delegate to the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund as a token of its gratitude and respect for his contribution and leadership.

D. History of UNICEF

May 1982, E/ICEF/695

122. At the May 1981 session of the Board, a number of representatives called attention to the importance of starting a project on the history of UNICEF while a number of long-standing staff members and members of the Board and National Committees for UNICEF, closely involved with the evolution of UNICEF, were still available. At the current session, the Board, on the suggestion of several delegations requested the Executive Director to proceed with the preparation of such a history. It adopted the following proposal:

It is proposed that the Executive Board request the Executive Director to entrust to independent and competent individuals the task of writing a history of UNICEF since its foundation using, inter alia, the testimony of past associates and members of the Executive Board and National Committees.

May 1983, E/ICEF/701

UNICEF history project

143. The Executive Board received a progress report on the UNICEF history project (E/ICEF/1983/CRP.43), as requested at the 1982 session. 11/ The Board noted that the project, now well underway, involved the preparation of a record of UNICEF experience. ...

144. The Board noted that the costs to date of the project, to be completed by 1986, were covered by "savings" in the revised 1983 budget; funding for the project for 1984-1985 was open to special contributions. If those proved insufficient, the remainder would be covered from any savings in the 1984-1985 budget or by inclusion in a supplementary budget request.

E. Fortieth anniversary of UNICEF

E/ICEF/1985/12

187. The report of the Working Group (E/ICEF/1985/CRP.48) was noted by the Board, which also adopted the following conclusions on the anniversary, as presented to the Executive Board in a statement by the Chairman of the Working Group (E/ICEF/1985/CRP.46):

The Executive Board resolves,

(a) That "Children First" is a suitable umbrella theme for the anniversary;

(b) That the major focus of the anniversary should not be a celebration of past achievements but should be the generation, particularly among children and youth themselves, of increased public attention and support for the present and future needs of all the world's children;

(c) That anniversary activities should be clearly focused on national-level actions, by using, supporting and extending the existing structures of National Committees for UNICEF, non-governmental organizations and the UNICEF secretariat;

(d) That, in keeping with the image of UNICEF, the anniversary celebrations should not be grandiose or extravagant;

11/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 7 (E/1982/17), para. 122.

(e) That special efforts be made to involve the mass media with the anniversary activities, both at national and international levels and by encouraging coverage of UNICEF field activities;

(f) That the anniversary offers an outstanding opportunity for developing countries to create new National Committees for UNICEF, or similar organizations, which would be invaluable in generating public awareness, support and "demand" for UNICEF-assisted programmes for children in developing countries, in addition to the normal functions of existing National Committees;

(g) That the essential role of the UNICEF secretariat was to encourage and support national-level actions for the anniversary, particularly by acting as a clearing house for the exchange of information, ideas and plans.

...

189. On the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations, which was being celebrated in 1985, particularly during the fortieth session of the General Assembly, the Board adopted the following resolution proposed by the representative of Bangladesh and contained in document E/ICEF/1985/CRP.45:

The Executive Board,

Reaffirming its commitment to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of resolution 39/161 A of the General Assembly on the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations,

1. Urges that special attention should be paid to the well-being and interests of children, future citizens of the world, in connection with the observance of the fortieth anniversary and that all countries should continue to attach high priority to the needs and development of children as integral elements of national plans and policies;

2. Draws the attention of world leaders to the importance of reaffirming on this occasion their increased commitment to accelerating the implementation of the child survival and development revolution and achieving universal immunization by 1990 with the objective of reducing dramatically the number of deaths among children from preventable causes;

3. Requests that the Declaration to be adopted by consensus on 24 October 1985 at the end of the commemorative session may also include reference to these important goals and objectives for the welfare of children;

4. Also requests the Executive Director to bring the contents of this resolution to the attention of all concerned.